



Britax

Advocate™ CS

User Guide



Safety Information	2
Warnings.....	2
Important Notes	4
Certification.....	5
Registration.....	5
Important Harness Adjustments	6
Child Seat Features	8
Vehicle Compatibility	10
Compatible Vehicle Seat Belts	10
Incompatible Vehicle Belts	14
Vehicle Buckle Positions.....	15
Vehicle Seating Positions	15
Installation: Rear-Facing	16
LATCH Installation.....	16
Lap-Shoulder Belt Installation	18
Lap-Belt Installation.....	20
Installation: Forward-Facing	22
LATCH Installation.....	22
Lap-Shoulder Belt Installation	24
Lap-Belt Installation.....	26
Installation: Aircraft	28
Installation: Versa-Tether®	29
Safety Information	29
Using the Versa-Tether.....	30
Tether Connector Strap.....	31
Energy-Absorbing Tether.....	32
Child Seat Functions	33
Securing Your Child	36
Adjusting the Harness Height	36
Buckling and Tightening the Harness	36
Care and Maintenance	39
Warranty	43

WARNING!

DEATH or SERIOUS INJURY CAN OCCUR:

- Use only in a rear-facing position when using it with an infant weighing less than 20 lbs (9.1 kg) **OR** is less than 1 year of age.
- Use only with children who weigh between 5 – 65 lbs (2.3 – 29.5 kg) and whose height is 49 in. (124.5 cm) or less. Use rear-facing for children who weigh between 5 – 35 lbs (2.3 – 15.9 kg). Use forward-facing for children who weigh between 20 – 65 lbs (9.1 – 29.5 kg) **AND** are at least 1 year of age.
- Snugly adjust the belts provided with this child restraint around your child. A snug strap should not allow any slack. It lies in a relatively straight line without sagging. It does not press into the child's flesh or push the child's body into an unnatural position.
- Secure the top tether strap provided with this child seat.
- Secure this child restraint with the vehicle's child restraint anchorage system if available, or with a vehicle belt.
- Follow all instructions on this child restraint and in the written instructions located in front of the child seat, on the lanyard, under the cover.
- Register this child restraint with the manufacturer.
- This child seat must be reclined when installed rear facing.
- Child seat must be in the full upright position when installed in forward-facing mode with children who weigh more than 33 lbs (15.1 kg).
- HUGS™ chest pads must be used in forward-facing mode. Removal of HUGS is optional only for rear-facing mode.
- To prevent injury due to deterioration or hidden damage, discontinue use of a child seat that is older than six years or has been in a moderate or severe crash. See *Serial Number and Manufactured Date Label* located on child seat (page 8).
- This child seat must not be used in the home, in boats, or other non-certified applications.
- Based on crash statistics, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) recommends that parents select the back seat as the safest location for a properly installed child seat. Please study *Vehicle Compatibility* on pages 10 – 15 to ensure your child's safety and consult your vehicle owner's manual.
- Secure this child seat even when it is not occupied. In a crash, an unsecured child seat may injure vehicle occupants.
- When using in a vehicle with air bags, refer to your vehicle owner's manual for child seat installation instructions and precautions.
- Never use the harness adjuster strap to lift or carry this child seat. Doing so could cause damage to harness adjuster and webbing. Always carry this child seat by its shell or tether straps.
- The primary protection for occupants of a vehicle in a collision is the body of the vehicle itself; a child seat will not protect a child when a vehicle is seriously impacted. However, correctly installed, a child seat will substantially improve chances for survival in most crashes. Make sure all users fully understand the correct ways to use this child seat in a vehicle.
- Refer to your vehicle owner's manual or contact the vehicle manufacturer for the maximum weight rating for their LATCH anchors. Use vehicle belt (not LATCH connectors) for installations with children who weigh more than the vehicle LATCH anchor limit. Unless specified otherwise by the vehicle manufacturer, assume a 40 lbs (18.1 kg) child is the vehicle LATCH anchor limit.
- Prevent the Side Impact Cushions from being punctured. Puncture damage will cause the cushions not to perform as intended in a crash.
- The use of non-Britax Child Safety, Inc., covers, inserts, toys, accessories, or tightening devices is not approved by Britax. Their use could cause this child seat not perform as intended in a crash.

Important Notes

- Verify that the child seat is securely installed and the harness is properly adjusted around the child each time the child seat is used.
- Adjust the harness to fit the clothes the child is wearing. Remove bulky coats and/or jackets before putting the child in child seat.
- Cover the child seat when the vehicle is parked in direct sunlight. Parts of child seat could become hot enough to burn a child.
- Store the child seat in a safe place when it is not being used. Avoid placing heavy objects on top of it.
- Do not leave children alone in a vehicle, even for a short time.
- Do not, except as described in this booklet, attempt to disassemble any part of the child seat or change the way the harness or vehicle's seat belts are used.
- Do not leave loose objects, e.g. books, bags, etc., in the back of a vehicle. In the event of a sudden stop, loose objects will keep moving, potentially causing serious injuries.
- Do not leave folding vehicle seats unsecured or unlatched. In the event of a sudden stop, a loose seat back could cause the child seat not to perform as intended.
- Do not allow children to play with this child seat.
- Do not use anything to raise the child seat off the vehicle seat except as described in these instructions. In a crash, this could cause the child seat not to perform as intended.



⚠ WARNING! DO NOT place child seat rear-facing in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger air bag unless deactivated. DEATH or SERIOUS INJURY can occur. See your vehicle owner's manual for child seat installation instructions. The back seat is the safest place for children 12 and under.

Certification

This child seat system conforms to all applicable Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards. **This child seat is certified for use in motor vehicles and aircraft.**

Registration

Child seats can be recalled for safety reasons. You must register this child seat to be reached in a recall. Send your name, address, and the child seat's model number and manufacturing date to Britax Child Safety, Inc., 13501 South Ridge Drive Charlotte, NC 28273, or call 1-888-4BRITAX, or register online at www.BritaxUSA.com/registration. For recall information, call the US Government's Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY 1-800-424-9153), or go to <http://www.NHTSA.gov>.

Serial Number: _____

Batch Number: _____

Date of Manufacture: _____

Important Harness Adjustments

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics:

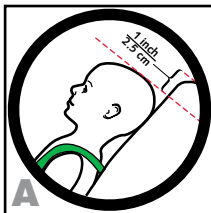
All infants should ride rear-facing until they have reached at least 1 year of age **and** weigh at least 20 lbs (9.1 kg). That means that if your infant reaches 20 lbs (9.1 kg) before her first birthday, she should remain rear-facing at least until she turns 1 year old. It is best for children to ride rear-facing to the highest weight or height allowed by the manufacturer.

Rear-Facing

Weigh between 5 – 35 lbs (2.3 – 15.9 kg).

Use rear-facing only with children:

- *who weigh between 5 – 35 lbs (2.3 – 15.9 kg) and*
- *the top of the child's head is at least 1 in. (2.5 cm) below the top of the child seat shell (Fig. A) and*
- *the harness straps are at or slightly below the child's shoulders.*



If the child cannot be secured within these requirements because the child exceeds height or weight requirements, review the forward-facing guidelines on page 7.

If the child cannot be secured within these requirements because the child is too small, selection of a different child seat (such as an infant carrier) may be required.

IMPORTANT: See [Adjusting the Harness Height](#) on page 36.



WARNING! DO NOT use the child seat rear-facing if any of the following apply:

- *the child is less than 5 lbs (2.3 kg) in weight or*
- *the child exceeds 35 lbs (15.9 kg) in weight or*
- *the top of the head is less than 1 in. (2.5 cm) from the top of the child seat shell (Fig. A) or*
- *the harness straps are above the child's shoulders.*

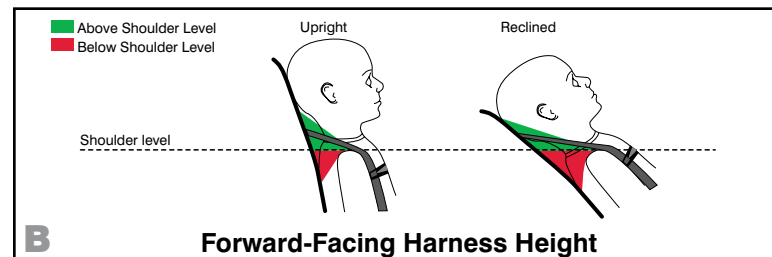
Forward-Facing

Weigh between 20 – 65 lbs (9.1 – 29.5 kg) **and** 1 year of age.

Use forward-facing only with children:

- *who are at least one year of age and*
- *who weigh between 20 – 65 lbs (9.1 – 29.5 kg) and*
- *who are 49 in. (124.5 cm) or less in height and*
- *the top of the child's ears are below the top of the child seat shell and*
- *the harness straps are at or above the child's shoulders, parallel to level ground (Fig. B).*

IMPORTANT: When using forward-facing recline mode, it may become necessary to adjust the harness to a higher height than would be used when the seat is upright. See [Adjusting the Harness Height](#) on page 36.



B

Forward-Facing Harness Height



WARNING! DO NOT use the child seat forward-facing if any of the following apply:

- *the child is less than one year of age or*
- *the child is less than 20 lbs (9.1 kg) in weight or*
- *the child exceeds 65 lbs (29.5 kg) in weight or*
- *the child exceeds 49 in. (124.5 cm) in height or*
- *the top of the ears are above the top of the child seat shell or*
- *the harness straps are below the child's shoulders, parallel to level ground (Fig. B)*

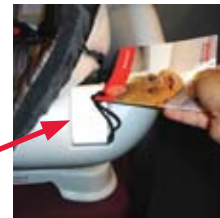


- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Cover | 13 Harness Buckle |
| 2 Side Impact Cushion | 14 Belly Pad |
| 3 Harness Straps | 15 Harness Adjuster Release Lever (under cover) |
| 4 Chest Clip | 16 Click & Safe™ Snug Harness Indicator (under cover) |
| 5 Infant Body Pillow | 17 Harness Adjuster Strap |
| 6 LATCH Bar | 18 Recline Handle |
| 7 LATCH Adjuster Strap | 19 Forward-Facing Lock-Off |
| 8 Head Restraint | 20 Serial Number and Manufactured Date Label |
| 9 Harness Slots | 21 Rear-Facing Lock-Off |
| 10 Comfort Pads | |
| 11 Harness Holder | |
| 12 HUGS™ (Harness Ultra Guard System) Chest Pads | |



- | | |
|---|--|
| 22 LATCH Adjuster Release Button | 27 Versa-Tether (Top Anchorage Strap) - in pouch |
| 23 LATCH Adjuster | 28 Harness Yoke |
| 24 LATCH Connector Release Button | 29 Belt Guard |
| 25 LATCH Connector (stored under cover) | 30 Base |
| 26 Head Restraint Adjustment Knob | |

IMPORTANT: When not in use, this user guide should be stored under the cover.
DO NOT discard the foam inserts found under the cover.



Compatible Vehicle Seat Belts

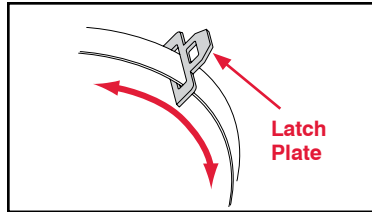
NOTE: The information in this section only applies to installation with vehicle safety belts.

Vehicle seats and safety belts differ from vehicle to vehicle. Refer to your vehicle owner's manual for specific information about your vehicle safety belts and their use with child seats.

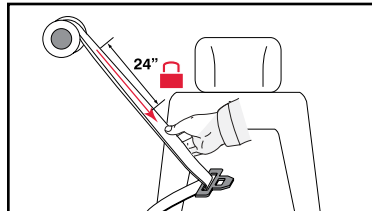
Lap-Shoulder (3-Point) Belt

1. ALR (Automatic Locking Retractor) with Sliding Latch Plate

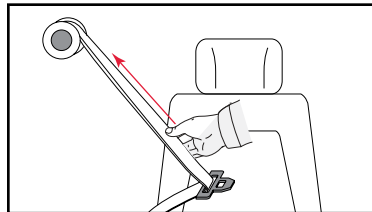
- a Has a latch plate that freely slides along the vehicle belt webbing.



- b Has a retractor that stops the belt from being pulled out again once the belt webbing has been pulled out at least 24 in. (61 cm).

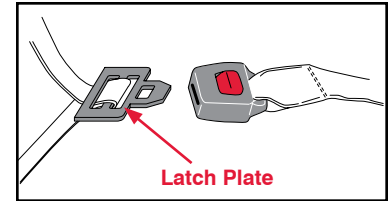


- c Tightens by feeding the belt webbing back into the retractor.

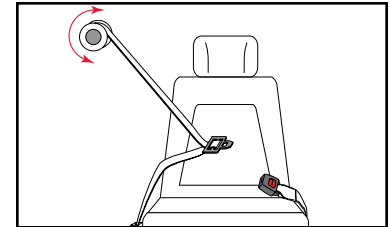


2. ELR (Emergency Locking Retractor) with Locking Latch Plate

- a Has a latch plate that does not allow the lap part of the belt to become loose after it is buckled.

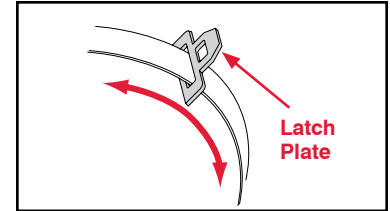


- b Has a retractor that locks only in an emergency situation such as sudden stop or crash.



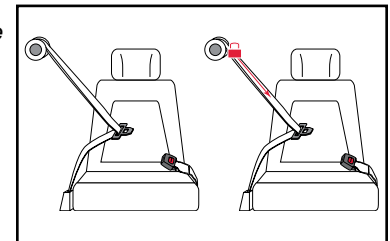
3. Switchable Retractor in ALR with Sliding Latch Plate

- a Has a latch plate that freely slides along the vehicle belt webbing.



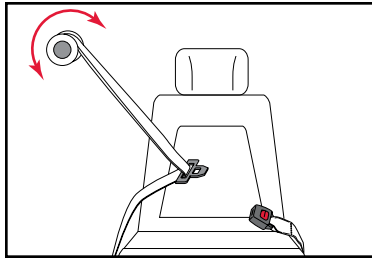
- b Has a retractor that can be switched to function as an ELR or an ALR by pulling the vehicle belt fully out until a clicking sound can be heard when retracting.

* To use a child seat with this type of vehicle belt, you will need to switch to the ALR mode or use child seat lock-offs.



4. ELR (Emergency Locking Retractor) with a Sliding Latch Plate

- a** Has a latch plate that freely slides along the vehicle belt webbing.
- b** Has a retractor that locks only in an emergency situation such as sudden stop or crash.

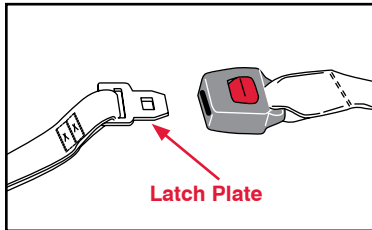


IMPORTANT: This belt type requires the use of the lock-offs built into the seat for rear- and forward-facing installations.

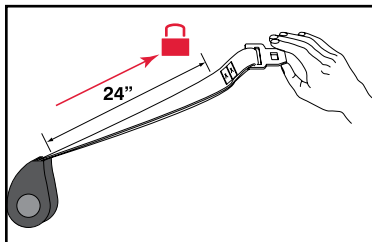
Lap Belt

5. ALR (Automatic Locking Retractor)

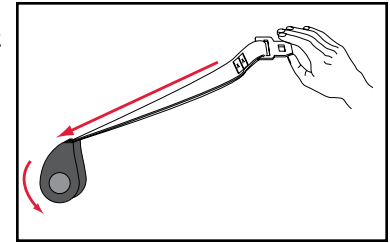
- a** Has a latch plate that is sewn into the webbing.



- b** Has a retractor that stops the belt from being pulled out again once the belt webbing has been pulled out at least 24 in. (61 cm).

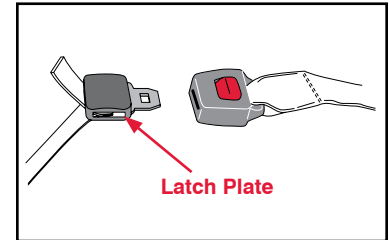


- c** Tightens by feeding the belt webbing back into the retractor.

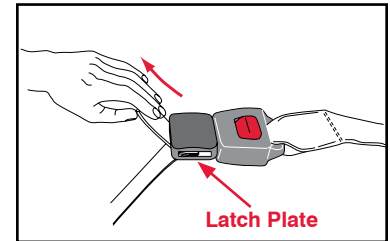


6. Locking Latch Plate

- a** Has a latch plate that does not allow the belt to become loose after it is buckled.

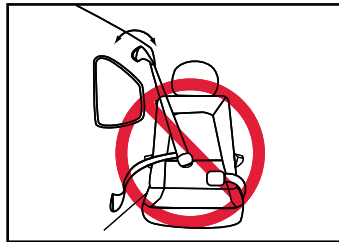


- b** Tightens by pulling on the belt webbing.

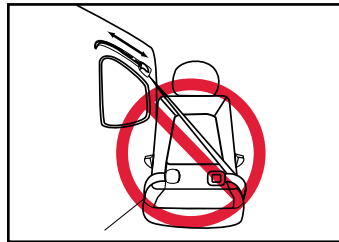


Incompatible Vehicle Belts

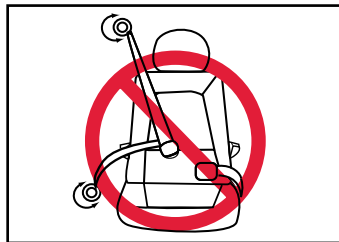
⚠ WARNING! The following types of vehicle belts are NOT compatible with this child seat:



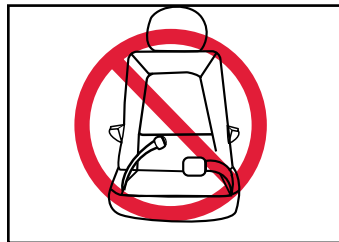
1 Vehicle belts with top or bottom anchor points on the vehicle door.



2 Motorized, automatic vehicle belts



3 Lap-shoulder belts that have a separate retractor each for the lap section and shoulder section



4 Lap belts forward of the vehicle seat bight.

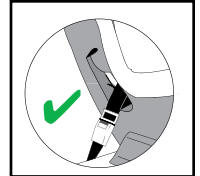
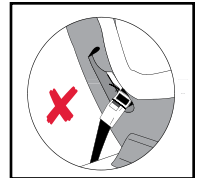
5 Lap belts that have a retractor that locks only in case of a sudden stop (emergency locking retractor or ELR).



Vehicle Buckle Positions

⚠ WARNING! The position of the vehicle belt buckle can adversely affect the stability of the child seat.

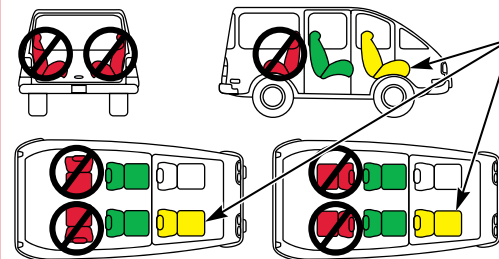
If the buckle lies near the incorrect position (X) when the vehicle belt is tightened, try fitting the child seat in another seating position in the vehicle OR consult your vehicle owner's manual to see if you can lower the vehicle buckle position by twisting the vehicle buckle stalk. If it is not possible to achieve the correct position (✓) for the buckle, then another seating position MUST be used.



Vehicle Seating Positions

⚠ WARNING! Some vehicles have no seating positions which are compatible with this child seat or any other child seat. If in doubt, contact the vehicle manufacturer for assistance.

Forward-facing vehicle seats MUST be used with this child seat. Side-facing or rear-facing seats CANNOT be used. See diagram below.

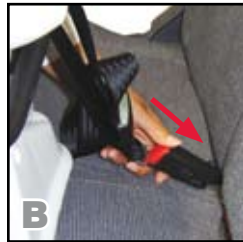


⚠ WARNING! DO NOT place a child seat rear-facing in the front seat of a vehicle with a passenger air bag unless deactivated. DEATH or SERIOUS INJURY can occur. See your vehicle owner's manual for child seat installation instructions. The back seat is the safest place for children 12 and under.

LATCH Installation

- Figure A illustrates a rear-facing LATCH installation.
 - Verify that your vehicle is equipped with LATCH anchors. If LATCH anchors are not available, you must use the vehicle belt installation methods.
- 1 If stored, remove the LATCH connectors from the storage slots under the cover (pg 33), open rear-facing lock-offs, and pass them through their adjacent rear-facing belt slots to the outside of the child seat.
 - 2 Press and hold the first LATCH adjuster release button, then pull the LATCH strap to full length. Repeat for the remaining LATCH connector.
 - 3 Recline the child seat and place rear-facing on the vehicle seat. This child seat must be in the reclined position when installed rear-facing. See [Recline Adjustment](#) on page 33.
 - 4 Attach one LATCH connector to its adjacent vehicle LATCH anchor (Fig. B) in the upright position (Fig. C).
 - An audible click confirms attachment.
 - Ensure that the LATCH strap is not twisted.
- TIP:** You may need to turn the front of the child seat toward you for easier access to the vehicle LATCH anchor.
- 5 Attach the remaining LATCH connector to its adjacent vehicle LATCH anchor (Fig. D) in the upright position (Fig. B).
 - An audible click confirms attachment.
 - Ensure that the LATCH strap is not twisted.

NOTE: If an audible click is not heard when connecting either LATCH connector, the LATCH strap may be twisted, or there may be debris in the LATCH connector. Correct either situation before continuing with the installation process.

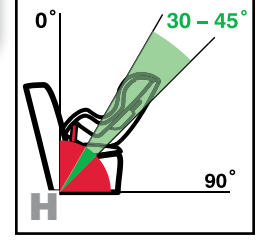


- 6 Align each LATCH strap on the LATCH bar with the "LATCH Strap Here Rear-Facing" label on each side of the child seat. (Figs. E and F).
 - 7 Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while pulling each LATCH strap tight (Fig. G).
- IMPORTANT:** Ensure the LATCH strap does not fold into the LATCH adjuster while tightening.

- 8 Verify that all connections are secure, the LATCH strap is aligned to the "LATCH Strap Here Rear-Facing" label on each side of the child seat, and that the child seat is stable.
 - The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved more than 1 in. (2.5 cm) front-to-back or side-to-side at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat the installation process or use an alternate seating location.
 - When properly installed in the rear-facing position, the back angle of the child seat should be 30° – 45° from vertical (not to exceed 45°) when the car is parked on a level surface (Fig. H).
 - If necessary, the proper recline angle can be achieved by placing a rolled towel or pool noodle in the vehicle seat bight to level the child seat's base.

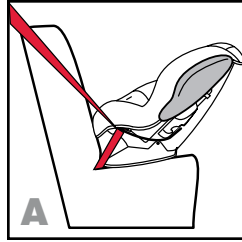
⚠ WARNING! Do not raise the child seat off the front edge of the vehicle seat. This could cause your child seat not to perform as intended.

- Rear-facing installation can be improved by the use of the Versa-Tether. See pages 29 – 32.



Lap-Shoulder Belt Installation

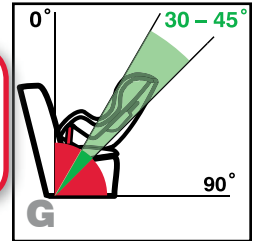
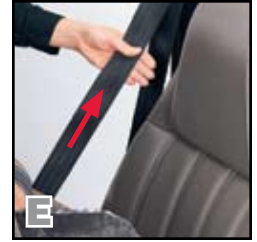
- Figure A illustrates a rear-facing, lap-shoulder belt installation.
 - When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. See page 33.
- 1 Recline the child seat then place it rear-facing on the vehicle seat. This child seat must be in the reclined position when installed rear-facing. See *Recline Adjustment* on page 33.
 - 2 Lift the cover to open the rear-facing lock-off farthest from where the vehicle belt will be buckled (Fig. B).
 - 3 Pull the vehicle belt out, then pass it **under** the LATCH bar and through the rear-facing belt slot (Fig. C).
 - The vehicle belt can be routed over or under the cover.
 - 4 Route the vehicle belt across seat then through the opposite rear-facing belt slot and **under** the LATCH bar.



IMPORTANT: The vehicle belt must rest behind the child seat buckle strap.

- 5 Verify that the vehicle belt is not twisted, position the lap belt portion through the open lock-off, then buckle (Fig. D).
- 6 Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while removing slack first from the lap portion of the vehicle belt, then the shoulder portion (Fig. E).
- 7 Position the shoulder portion of the vehicle belt through the open lock-off, tighten belt, close the lock-off arm (Fig. F), and replace the cover.
 - The lock-off is properly closed when a click is heard.
 - To prevent damage, never extend the lock-off arm beyond its normal open position and always keep the lock-off closed when it is not in use.

- 8 Verify that vehicle belt is tight and that the child seat is secure.
 - The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved more than 1 in. (2.5 cm) front-to-back or side-to-side at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat the installation process or use an alternate seating location.
 - When properly installed in the rear-facing position, the back angle of the child seat should be 30° – 45° from vertical (not to exceed 45°) when the car is parked on a level surface (Fig. G).
 - If necessary, the proper recline angle can be achieved by placing a rolled towel or pool noodle in the vehicle seat bight to level the child seat's base.



WARNING! Do not raise the child seat off the front edge of the vehicle seat. This could cause your child seat not to perform as intended.

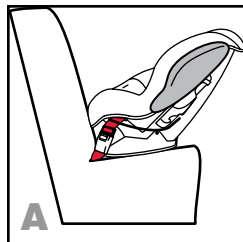
- Rear-facing installation can be improved by the use of the Versa-Tether. See pages 29 – 32.

Lap-Belt Installation

- Figure A illustrates a rear-facing, lap-belt installation.
 - When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. See page 33.
- 1 Recline the child seat, then place it rear facing on the vehicle seat. This child seat must be in the reclined position when installed rear-facing. See *Recline Adjustment* on page 33.
 - 2 Lift the cover and open the rear-facing lock-off farthest from where the vehicle belt will be buckled (Fig. B).
 - 3 Pull the vehicle belt out, then pass it **under** the LATCH bar, and through the rear-facing belt slot (Fig. C).
 - The vehicle belt can be routed over or under cover.
 - 4 Route the vehicle belt across the child seat then through the opposite rear-facing belt slot and **under** the LATCH bar.

IMPORTANT: The vehicle belt must rest behind the child seat buckle strap.

- 5 Verify that the vehicle belt is not twisted, position the belt through the open lock-off, then buckle (Fig. D).
- 6 Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while removing slack from the vehicle belt.
- 7 Tighten the belt, close the lock-off arm and replace the cover (Fig. E).
 - The lock-off is properly closed when a click is heard.
 - To prevent damage, never extend the lock-off arm beyond its normal open position and always keep the lock-off closed when not in use.

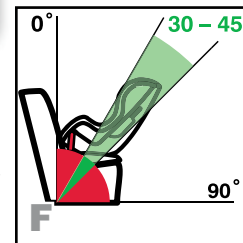


- If your vehicle is equipped with an automatic locking retractor (ALR), use of the lock-offs is not required as long as the ALR is locked. Check your vehicle owner's manual to determine the type of retractor your vehicle has, and how to lock the retractor.

⚠ WARNING! Do not use this seat with a non-locking, two-point Emergency Locking Retractor (ELR) vehicle belt.



- 8 Verify that vehicle belt is tight, locked, and that the child seat is secure.
 - The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved more than 1 in. (2.5 cm) front-to-back or side-to-side at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat the installation process or use an alternate seating location.
 - When properly installed in the rear-facing position, the back angle of the child seat should be 30° – 45° from vertical (not to exceed 45°) when the car is parked on a level surface (Fig. F).
 - If necessary, the proper recline angle can be achieved by placing a rolled towel or pool noodle in the crease of the vehicle seat to level the child seat's base.

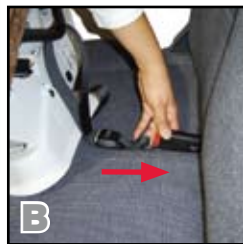
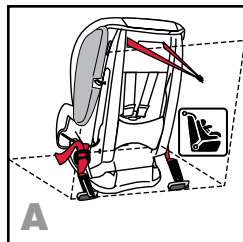


⚠ WARNING! Do not raise the child seat off the front edge of the vehicle seat. This could cause your child seat not to perform as intended.

- Rear-facing installation can be improved by the use of the Versa-Tether. See pages 29 – 32.

LATCH Installation

- Figure A illustrates a forward-facing LATCH installation.
- Verify that your vehicle is equipped with LATCH anchors. If LATCH anchors are not available, you must use vehicle belt installation methods.

**⚠ WARNING!**

- This child seat must not be used forward-facing for children less than one year of age OR who weigh less than 20 lbs (9.1 kg).
- This child seat must be in full upright position when installed forward-facing for children who weigh more than 33 lbs (15.1 kg).

- 1 If stored, remove the LATCH connectors from the storage slots under the cover (pg 33), open rear-facing lock-offs, and pass them through their adjacent rear-facing belt slots to the outside of the child seat.
- 2 Press and hold the first LATCH adjuster release button, then pull the LATCH strap to full length. Repeat for the remaining LATCH connector.
- 3 Remove the Versa-Tether from the pouch and place it up and over the child seat back.
- 4 Place the child seat forward-facing on the vehicle seat.

TIP: You may need to raise or remove the vehicle head restraint to achieve best fit of the child seat.

- 5 Attach one LATCH connector to its adjacent vehicle LATCH anchor (Fig. B) in the upright position (Fig. C).
 - An audible click confirms attachment.
 - Ensure that the LATCH strap is not twisted.

TIP: You may need to turn the back of the child seat toward you for easier access to the vehicle LATCH anchor.

- 6 Attach the remaining LATCH connector to its adjacent vehicle LATCH anchor (Fig. D) in an upright position (Fig. C).
 - An audible click confirms attachment.
 - Ensure that the LATCH strap is not twisted.

NOTE: If an audible click is not heard when connecting either LATCH connector, the LATCH strap may be twisted, or there may be debris in the LATCH connector. Correct either situation before continuing with the installation process.

- 7 Align each LATCH strap on the LATCH bar with the "LATCH STRAP ON OR ABOVE LINE FORWARD-FACING" label on each side of the child seat (Fig. E).

TIP: Gradually tighten each LATCH strap and keep the LATCH strap webbing from sliding down on the LATCH bar.

- 8 Push the child seat into the vehicle seat while pulling each LATCH strap tight (Fig. F).
- IMPORTANT:** Ensure the LATCH strap does not fold into the LATCH adjuster while tightening.
- 9 Attach the Versa Tether® hook to the vehicle's designated tether anchor for the chosen seating position. Remove all slack from the tether to secure. Store excess webbing in the tether pouch. See pages 29 – 32.

- 10 Verify that all connections are secure and that the child seat is stable.

- The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved front- to-back or side-to-side more than 1 in. (2.5 cm) at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat the installation process or use an alternate seating location.



Lap-Shoulder Belt Installation

- Figure A illustrates a forward-facing lap-shoulder belt installation.
- When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. See page 33.

WARNING!

- This child seat must not be used forward-facing for children less than one year of age OR who weigh less than 20 lbs (9.1 kg).
- This child seat must be in full upright position when installed forward-facing for children who weigh more than 33 lbs (15.1 kg).

IMPORTANT: Britax recommends that the Versa-Tether be used at all times. Using the tether will improve the stability of the child seat and reduce the risk of injury. Check your vehicle owner's manual for approved tether locations.

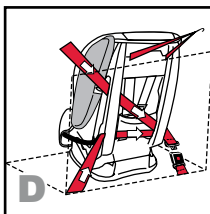
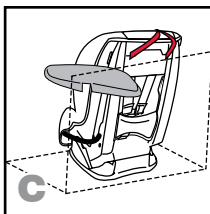
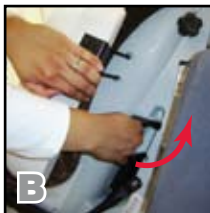
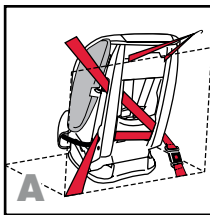
- 1 Place the child seat forward-facing on the vehicle seat. Ensure the bottom of the child seat base is in full contact with the vehicle seat.

TIP: You may need to raise or remove the vehicle head restraint to achieve best fit of the child seat.

- 2 If the vehicle is equipped with a designated tether anchor for the chosen seating position, remove the Versa-Tether from the pouch and place it up and over the child seat back.
- 3 Pull and hold the side impact cushion away from the child seat belt path, then open the forward-facing lock-off opposite the vehicle belt buckle (Fig. B).

TIP: The side impact cushions can be rotated for better access to the belt path during installation (Fig C).

- 4 Pull vehicle belt out, then pass it **over** the LATCH bar, through the forward-facing belt path, then **over** the LATCH bar on the opposite side (Fig. D).



TIP: Turning the back of the child seat toward you can make routing the vehicle belt easier (Fig. E).

- 5 Verify that the vehicle belt is not twisted and is routed **over** the LATCH bars, then buckle (Fig. F).

IMPORTANT: This child seat is equipped with a built-in lock-off for lap-shoulder belt systems that do not lock. Check your vehicle owner's manual to determine how to lock your vehicle's retractor type. See pages 10 – 13 for more information.

- 6 If your vehicle is equipped with a retractor that can be locked, lock the retractor and proceed to step 7. If your vehicle belt system does not lock, follow the steps below to use the lock-off.

a Buckle the vehicle belt and push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while removing all slack first from the lap portion, and then the shoulder portion of the vehicle belt (Fig. G).

b Rotate the Side Air Cushion away from the child seat shell to access the forward-facing lock-off.

c Brace the Side Air Cushion with your forearm while pulling the shoulder belt tight and closing the lock-off (Fig. H).

d Continue installation instructions at step 9.

- 7 Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while removing slack first from the lap portion of the vehicle belt, then the shoulder portion (Fig. G).
- 8 Attach the Versa-Tether® hook to the designated tether anchor (if available according to the vehicle owner's manual) for the chosen seating position. Remove all slack from the tether to secure. Store excess webbing in the tether pouch. See pages 29 – 32.
- 9 Verify that the vehicle belt is tight and the child seat is secure.
 - The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved front-to-back or side-to-side more than 1 in. (2.5 cm) at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat the installation process or use an alternate seating location.



Lap-Belt Installation

- Figure A illustrates a forward-facing, lap-belt installation.
- When not in use, always store the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. See page 33.

WARNING!

- This child seat must not be used forward-facing for children less than one year of age OR who weigh less than 20 lbs (9.1 kg).
- This child seat must be in full upright position when installed forward-facing for children who weigh more than 33 lbs (15.1 kg).

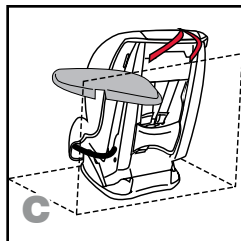
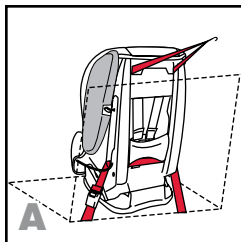
IMPORTANT: Britax recommends that the Versa-Tether be used at all times. Using the tether will improve the stability of the child seat and reduce the risk of injury. Check your vehicle owner's manual for approved tether locations.

- 1 Place the child seat forward-facing on the vehicle seat. Ensure the bottom of the child seat base is in full contact with the vehicle seat.

TIP: You may need to raise or remove the vehicle head restraint to achieve best fit of the child seat.

- 2 If the vehicle is equipped with a designated tether anchor for the chosen seating position, remove the Versa-Tether from the pouch and place it up and over the child seat back.
- 3 Pull the vehicle belt out, then pass it **under** the LATCH bar, through the forward-facing belt path, then **under** the LATCH bar on the opposite side (Fig. B).

TIP: The side impact cushions can be rotated for better access to the belt path during installation (Fig C).

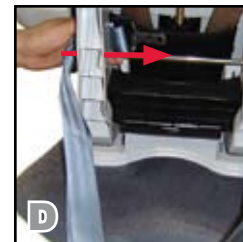


- 4 Verify that the vehicle belt is not twisted, is routed **under** the LATCH bars, then buckle (Fig. B).

TIP: Turning the back of the child seat toward you can make routing the vehicle belt easier (Fig. D).

- 5 Push the child seat firmly into the vehicle seat while removing slack from the vehicle belt (Fig. E).
- 6 Attach the Versa-Tether® hook to the designated tether anchor (if available according to the vehicle owner's manual) for the chosen seating position. Remove all slack from the tether to secure. Store excess webbing in the tether pouch. See pages 29 – 32.
- 7 Verify that the vehicle belt is tight, locked and the child seat is secure.

- The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved front-to-back or side-to-side more than 1 in. (2.5 cm) at the belt path. If the child seat is not secure, repeat the installation process or use an alternate seating location.





This child seat is certified for aircraft use. Most airlines in the U.S. and Canada will allow the use of a child seat as long as it is labeled as an approved child seat for airline use and fits properly on the aircraft seat. Contact the airline about their policy prior to traveling.

The FAA recommends that a child weighing up to 40 lbs (18.1 kg) use a certified, harnessed child seat while traveling on an aircraft.

Install your child seat in a window seat to avoid blocking the aisle.

If the aircraft lap belt is too short, ask the flight attendant for a belt extender.

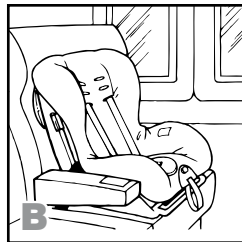
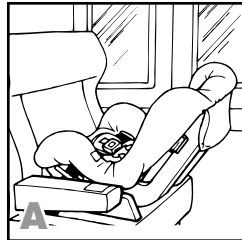
Rear-Facing Installation

For rear-facing aircraft installation (Fig. A), follow *Rear-Facing Lap-Belt Installation* instructions on pages 20–21.

→ To aid installation on aircraft, open the rear-facing lock-offs to allow routing of large buckles.

Forward-Facing Installation

For forward-facing aircraft installation (Fig. B), follow *Forward-Facing Lap-Belt Installation* instructions on pages 26–27.



Safety Information



WARNING!

- When using the child seat in forward-facing mode, attach the Versa-Tether only to tether anchors designated by the vehicle manufacturer as tether anchorage points. Use of other locations is not approved or permitted.
- DO NOT modify the vehicle without advice from the vehicle manufacturer if a tether anchorage is not available.

IMPORTANT:

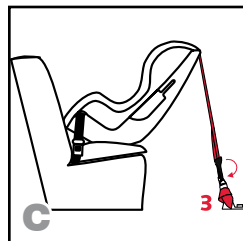
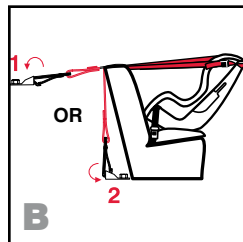
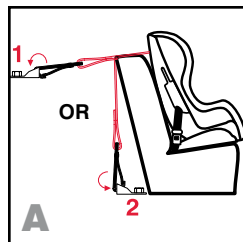
- Britax recommends that the tether be used at all times. Using the tether will improve the stability of the child seat and reduce the risk of injury.
- If your vehicle does not currently have a tether anchor attachment, refer to your vehicle owner's manual or contact the vehicle manufacturer for assistance.

Using the Versa-Tether

- 1 Consult your vehicle owner's manual for designated tether anchorage locations.
- 2 Locate the tether on the rear of the child seat and remove the tether from the pouch.
- 3 Place the tether up and over the child seat back.
- 4 Install the child seat using the LATCH system or the vehicle belts according to the instructions in this manual.
- 5 Tilt the tether release tab then pull to fully extend the tether strap into a "V" shape.
- 6 Locate the hook on the tether strap and attach the tether hook to the vehicle's designated tether anchor.
 - See figure A for a forward-facing installation.
 - See figures B and C for a rear-facing installation.

IMPORTANT: The tether should be hooked over, not under, the vehicle tether anchor.

- 7 Pull the tether adjuster strap to remove all slack. Roll up excess webbing and store in tether pouch.
- 8 Verify there is tension in the tether strap and that child seat is properly secured.
 - *The child seat is secure when it cannot be moved front-to-back or side-to-side more than 1 in. (2.5 cm) at the belt path.*

**Tether Connector Strap**

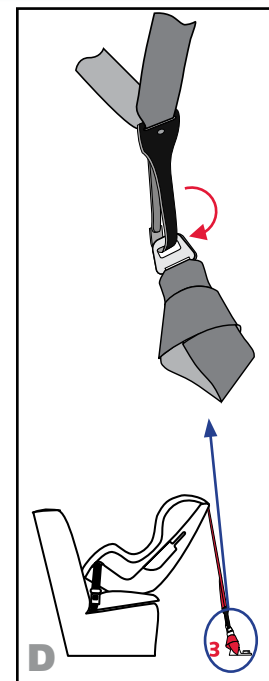
NOTE: Britax child seats are shipped with the tether connector strap attached to the Versa-Tether® hook. When not in use with rear-facing installations that have designated tether anchors or forward-facing installations, store the tether connector strap in the tether pouch.

⚠ WARNING! Only use the tether connector strap for a rear-facing tether installation when there is NOT a designated vehicle tether anchor

Because every vehicle model is different, sometimes you cannot find a location to properly anchor the tether. Use the tether connector strap to assist in creating an anchor point (Fig. D).

- 1 Find a fixed vehicle anchor point that is bolted to the floor.
- 2 If you cannot find an acceptable location to create an anchor point, contact the vehicle manufacturer to identify a suitable tether connection point.
- 3 Route the tether connector strap around the fixed vehicle anchor point.
- 4 Take the metal D-ring and thread it through the webbing loop on the other end of the tether connector strap (Fig. D).
- 5 Pull the metal D-ring all the way through until the tether connector strap is tight.
- 6 Use the D-ring as an attachment point for the hook on the tether strap.

NOTE: Store the tether connector strap in the tether pouch when not in use.



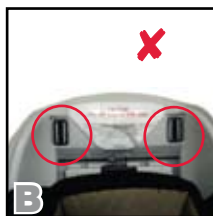
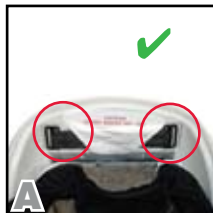
Energy-Absorbing Tether

The energy-absorbing Versa-Tether was designed to enhance the performance of the child seat tether. By introducing a staged release of the tether webbing, the forward movement of the child seat is delayed while reducing the amount of energy transferred to the child seat during a crash. A secondary benefit of the energy-absorbing Versa-Tether is to help indicate when the child seat has been involved in a moderate or severe crash and replacement of the child seat is necessary.

Figure A shows the tether when the child seat is acceptable for continued use (provided the child seat has not been involved in a crash). The colored stitching will be intact and the webbing will be looped inside the shell.

Figures B and C show the tether when the child seat is unacceptable for continued use. If any of the loops have pulled through the back side of the shell and/or any of the colored stitching has been released on either side, the child seat is no longer acceptable for use. Discontinue use of the child seat.

IMPORTANT: Regardless of whether loops have pulled through the back side of the shell and the colored stitching has been released, discontinue use of the child seat if it has been involved in a moderate or severe crash.



Storing the LATCH Connectors

When the LATCH connector is not in use, lift the cover to access the LATCH storage slots (Fig. D). Fold the LATCH adjuster and the connector, then slide each set into the adjacent slot.

NOTE: Child seats are shipped from Britax with the LATCH connectors in the storage slots. You will have to open the rear-facing lock-offs to remove the LATCH connectors from storage.



Recline Adjustment

Pull the recline handle (Fig. E) then slide the child seat shell into the desired position. Release the recline handle, then verify the child seat has locked into position.



WARNING!

- This child seat must be in the reclined position when used rear-facing.
- This child seat must be in full upright position when installed forward-facing for children who weigh more than 33 lbs (15.1 kg).

NOTE: It will be necessary to loosen the tether, vehicle seat belt, and/or LATCH strap before adjusting the recline position. The tether, vehicle seat belt, and/or LATCH strap must be properly re-tightened after adjusting the recline position.



Infant Body Pillow

The Infant Body Pillow is designed to provide better fit and comfort for infants using this child seat. For additional side support, fold the side flaps inward (Fig. F).

NOTE: Remove the Infant Body Pillow after the child can sit comfortably in the child seat without additional support.

Chest Clip

Fastening the Chest Clip

Fasten the chest clip by pushing the two halves together until a click is heard (Fig. A).

Releasing the Chest Clip

- 1 Squeeze the middle tabs together (Fig. B).
- 2 Pull the two pieces apart.

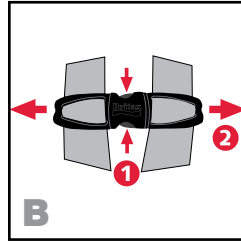
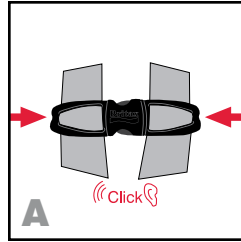
Adjusting the Chest Clip

- 1 Slide the chest clip up or down on the harness so it is positioned at the middle of the child's chest, level with the child's armpits (Fig. C).
- 2 Slide the HUGS™ chest pads and comfort pads to a comfortable location for the child.

HUGS™ Chest Pads



WARNING! HUGS™ chest pads must be installed for forward-facing use. Removal of HUGS is optional only for rear-facing use.



Harness Buckle

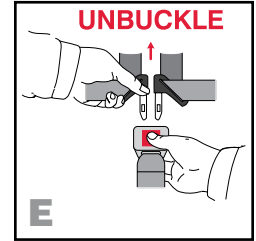
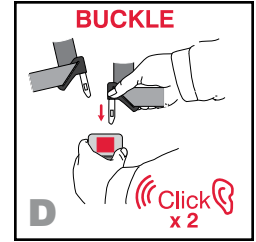
Fastening the Harness Buckle

- 1 Hold the harness buckle with one hand.
- 2 Use your other hand to insert one buckle tongue at a time into the harness buckle (Fig. D).
 - A proper connection is confirmed with an audible click after inserting each buckle tongue.

Releasing the Harness Buckle

- 1 Brace the rear of the harness buckle with one hand.
- 2 Use your thumb to press the release button and slide both buckle tongues to remove from the buckle (Fig. E).

IMPORTANT: Periodically clean the harness buckle to ensure safe operation. See page 42.



Adjusting the Harness Height

IMPORTANT: See *Important Harness Adjustments* on pages 6–7 for instructions on proper harness fit based on your child's height and weight.

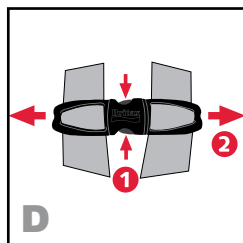
- 1 Loosen the harness by lifting the harness adjuster lever while pulling both harness straps forward as far as possible (Fig A).
- 2 Rotate the head restraint adjustment knob on either side of child seat to raise or lower the head restraint and harness (Fig. B).

NOTE: DO NOT force the head restraint adjustment knob in either direction. If the knob is difficult to turn, the head restraint may be at maximum or minimum height, the harness may be tight, or the child's weight is pressing against the head restraint cover.

TIP: The side impact cushions can be moved for easier access to the head restraint adjustment knob.

Buckling and Tightening the Harness

- 1 Loosen the harness by lifting the harness adjuster release lever located on the front of the child seat while pulling both shoulder straps forward (Fig. C).
- 2 Release the chest clip by squeezing the tabs and sliding the pieces apart (Fig. D).
- 3 Unfasten the harness buckle by pressing the release button and sliding the tongues out.
- 4 Move the harness straps to the side of the child seat.



- Use the harness holders located on the straps and both sides of the cover to aid in holding the straps.

IMPORTANT: Remove bulky coats and/or jackets before putting the child in child seat. Adjust the harness to fit the clothes the child is wearing.

- 5 Place child in the child seat.
- 6 Position harness straps around the child and fasten harness buckle (Fig. E) and chest clip (Fig. F).
 - Proper connection of the harness buckle is confirmed with an audible click after inserting each buckle tongue.
 - If the buckle will not fasten with an audible click after insertion of each buckle tongue, the harness buckle or adjuster area may be clogged with food, drink or other debris that needs to be removed. See page 39 for cleaning instructions.



- 7 Slide the HUGS™ chest pads down towards the buckle.

Important checklist before tightening the harness:

- ✓ Check for proper harness height (see pages 6 – 7).
- ✓ Remove slack from around the child's upper thighs.
- ✓ Remove slack between the HUGS™ chest pads and the buckle.

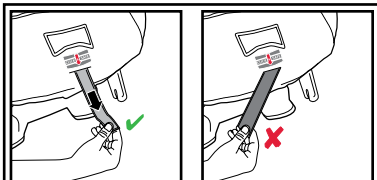
- 8 Slowly pull the adjuster strap until the harness is snug around the child. **The harness adjuster will click when the harness is snug.**

NOTE: The Click & Safe™ Snug Harness Indicator is an audible aide to help determine when the harness is within range of appropriate snugness. When tightening the harness, this audible click provides extra assurance that the harness is snug.

- A snug strap should not allow any slack. It lies in a relatively straight line without sagging. It does not press on the child's flesh or push the child's body into an unnatural position.
- You should not be able to pinch excess webbing at the shoulder once the harness is properly secured.

- 9 If there is still slack in the harness, review the checklist and then pull the harness adjuster strap again until another click indicates a snug harness.
- 10 Position the chest clip at the middle of the child's chest, level with the child's armpits (Fig. A).
- 11 Verify that the harness is not twisted and the child is properly secured.

IMPORTANT: Always pull on the harness after securing the child to ensure the buckle tongues are secure in the harness buckle.

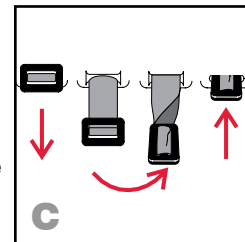


- ✓ Pull the harness adjuster away from the child seat to tighten.
- ✗ Do not pull sideways.



Cover Removal

- 1 Remove the infant body pillow.
- 2 Loosen the harness by lifting the harness adjuster lever while pulling both shoulder straps forward as far as possible.
- 3 Release the chest clip and unbuckle the harness.
- 4 Unhook the shoulder straps from the harness yoke on the rear of the child seat (Fig. B).
- 5 Pull the upper harness straps through the head restraint and cover to the front of the child seat.
- 6 Recline the child seat.
- 7 Locate the metal buckle strap retainer on the bottom of the child seat.
- 8 Pull the retainer away from the child seat to loosen.
- 9 Turn the retainer so the short side will fit through the slot in the child seat shell (Fig. C).
- 10 Push the retainer through the slots in the shell and cover, to the top of the child seat.
- 11 Remove the head restraint portion of the cover. Remove the energy-absorbing foam from the head restraint and set aside.
 - * Be careful not to damage the energy-absorbing foam.
- 12 Gently remove the upper portion of the cover by pulling it from behind the side air cushions and then around the head restraint.
- 13 Pull the lower harness straps, buckle tongues, HUGS™ chest pads, and chest clip through the lower slots in cover.
- 14 Remove the entire cover from the child seat.



Cleaning the Cover

- HAND WASH using cold water and mild soap.
- LINE or LIE-FLAT DRY to prevent the cover from shrinking.
- **DO NOT** bleach, machine wash, machine dry or iron.

Refitting the Cover

To refit the cover, reverse the directions on page 39. Make sure that the shoulder straps are not twisted, and are properly threaded through the chest clip, HUGS™ chest pads, cover, foam, and shell.

Cleaning the Shell

- SPONGE CLEAN using warm water and mild soap.
- TOWEL DRY
- **DO NOT** use solvents or abrasive cleaners.

Cleaning the Side Impact Cushions

- SPONGE CLEAN using warm water and mild soap.
- TOWEL DRY
- **DO NOT** use solvents or abrasive cleaners.



WARNING! Prevent the Side Impact Cushions from being punctured. Puncture damage will cause the cushions not to perform as intended in a crash.

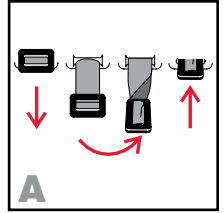
Cleaning the Harness

- SPONGE CLEAN using warm water and mild soap.
- TOWEL DRY
- **DO NOT** bleach, machine wash, machine dry, iron, or disassemble the harness.

Cleaning the Harness Adjuster

Periodically check the adjuster area to be sure it is clean and free of food, drink or other debris. If debris is present, it must be removed to prevent interference with the adjuster mechanism.

- BRUSH AWAY LOOSE DEBRIS using a soft-bristled brush.
- SPONGE CLEAN using warm water and a mild soap.
- TOWEL DRY
- **DO NOT** use solvents, abrasive cleaners or disassemble the harness.

**Harness Buckle Removal**

- 1 Recline the child seat.
- 2 Locate the metal buckle strap retainer on the bottom of the child seat.
- 3 Pull the retainer away from the child seat to loosen.
- 4 Turn the retainer so the short side will fit through the slot in the child seat shell (Fig. A).
- 5 Push the retainer through the slots in the shell and cover, to the top of the child seat.

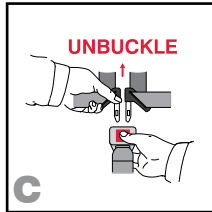
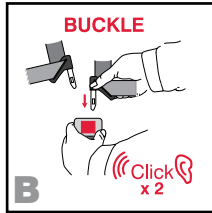
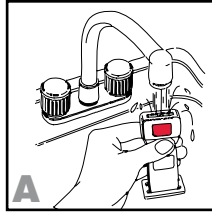
Re-threading the Harness Buckle

- 1 Locate the slot in cover and shell for the harness buckle.
- 2 Turn the buckle retainer so the short side will fit through the slot in the cover and the child seat shell (Fig. A).
- 3 Push the retainer through the slots in the shell and cover, to the bottom of the child seat.
- 4 Pull the harness buckle away from the child seat until tight and verify the strap is not twisted and the release button is facing outward.

Cleaning the Harness Buckle

If a child eats and drinks while in the child seat, the harness buckle may need to be periodically checked and cleaned of any food, drink or other debris.

- REMOVE BUCKLE as described on page 41.
- RINSE THOROUGHLY using warm water (Fig. A).
- TEST THE HARNESS BUCKLE by fastening (Fig. B) and unfastening (Fig. C) until a click is heard after inserting each buckle tongue.
- If either click is not heard, repeat cleaning procedure.
- TOWEL DRY
- **DO NOT** lubricate, use solvents, abrasive cleaners, soap or other household detergents.



This child seat was manufactured by Britax Child Safety, Inc. Britax® warrants this product to the original retail purchaser as follows:

LIMITED ONE-YEAR WARRANTY

This product is warranted against defective materials or workmanship for one year from the date of original purchase. Proof of purchase is required. The exclusive remedy for this warranty is that Britax will, at its option, provide repair or replacement components for this product. Britax reserves the right to discontinue or change fabrics, parts, models or products, or to make substitutions.

To make a claim under this warranty, contact Britax Consumer Services at 1-888-427-4829 or write to us using the address on the back cover of this booklet. Proof of purchase is required.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL THE OWNER REGISTRATION CARD WITHIN (30) DAYS OF PURCHASE OR VISIT WWW.BRITAXUSA.COM/REGISTRATION.

WARRANTY LIMITATIONS

This warranty does not include damages which arise from negligence, misuse or use not in accordance with the product instruction.

The use of non-Britax Child Safety, Inc., covers, inserts, toys, accessories, or tightening devices is not approved by Britax. Their use could cause this child seat to fail Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards or not perform as intended in a crash. Their use automatically voids the Britax warranty.

LIMITATION OF DAMAGES

The warranty and remedies as set forth above are exclusive and in lieu of all others, oral or written, express or implied. In no event will Britax, or the retailer selling this product, be liable for any damages, including incidental or consequential damages, arising out of the use or inability to use this product.

LIMITATIONS OF WARRANTIES AND OTHER WARRANTY TERMS AND STATE LAWS

Any implied warranties, including implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose, shall be limited to the duration and terms of the express written warranty. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts or the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations may not apply. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may have other rights, which vary from state to state. Neither Britax, nor the retailer selling this product, authorizes any person to create for it any other warranty, obligation, or liability in connection with this product.



Click & Safe™ Snug Harness Indicator

The Click & Safe™ Snug Harness Indicator is an audible aide to help determine when the harness is within range of appropriate snugness.

STEP 1: Checklist before tightening harness:

- ☑ Check for proper harness height, see pages 6 – 7.
- ☑ Remove slack from around child's upper thighs.
- ☑ Remove slack between HUGS™ chest pads and buckle.

STEP 2: Pull harness adjuster strap until an audible click confirms that the harness is snug.

STEP 3: Double check:

- ☑ Harness is buckled and secure.
- ☑ Harness is snug and you can not pinch excess webbing at the shoulder.
- ☑ If there is still slack in the harness, double check Step 1, then pull the adjuster strap again until another click indicates a snug harness.

See Buckling and Tightening the Harness, pages 36 – 38, for more details.

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